



Life Course

Interventions

Brief Name

Mental Health Hospitalizations

Indicator

Rate of children admitted to the hospital for mental health reasons, per 100,000.

Description

This metric is the number of inpatient mental health or psychiatric hospitalizations based on diagnosis for children in private or public hospitals and for all insurance payers. The following mental health and substance use disorder categories are included: anxiety disorder, attention-deficit disorder, conduct disorder, dementia, cognitive, developmental, impulse control, mood, personality, schizophrenia, alcohol or substance related disorders, and suicide. Hospitalization data are reported by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to the national dataset.

Importance

The National Institute of Mental Health, state agencies, and local health systems track inpatient mental health, or psychiatric hospitalizations as a measure of response to and treatment for individuals with mental illness. Because effective community services are correlated with reductions in psychiatric hospitalizations (Drake, 2008; Hoagwood, 2001).

Limitations

This metric tracks overall number of discharges from the hospital and provides no information related to the number of times a child may have been admitted.

Hospitalizations are reported by each state government to be tracked federally. States may have different tracking and reporting requirements. Individual state data is not publically available due to privacy concerns.

Source

US & State Comparison Data: Nationwide Inpatient Sample, 2000-2013, Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Retrieved from <http://hcupnet.ahrq.gov/> Wisconsin data from the Wisconsin Hospital Association database, administered by DHS. Drake, Robert E., et al. "A systematic review of psychosocial research on psychosocial interventions for people with co-occurring severe mental and substance use disorders." *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 34.1 (2008): 123-138. Hoagwood, Kimberly, et al. "Evidence-based practice in child and adolescent mental health services." *Psychiatric Services* (2001).

WI	US	Best	Worst
223*	199	67	362
per 100,000		per 100,000	
Year		Pacific Region [#]	West North Central [±]
2013			

Numerator

Number of children admitted to the hospital for mental health reasons

Denominator

Children aged 0 to 18, per 100,000

*Indicates statistically significant difference from the US value at $p < 0.05$.

[#]Pacific Region (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)

[±]West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD)